Dear Jim, 12/31/96

I've been sent and read the Liz Smith Exner story in Vanity Fair.

Did you do any checking at all?

Or are you so wedded to assassination nuttiness and exploitation that nothing else is real to you, or has or can have any meaning.

I do not know what the truth is but I do know enough about what is not and cannot possibly be true to wonder what in the world you got yourself involved in that for, of all the things you could do and all for which you find no time.

If you have not dedicated yourself to anti-Kennedyism, which puts you on the side of those who killed him and those for whom they did, you know enough about the established and readily available fact to know that Exner is a very big and apparently very persuasive liar.

Some of that you knew you could check with me. Some common sense should have told you is not possible.

You had time for this but not for coming up to get what I have that you would use for a client I got you.

And apparently are helping Hersh with the axe job on which he is started.

Of all the things he could do if he really cared about this country.

It is too late now for anything other than telling you I'm ashamed of you!

Harold